

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Miventor: Robert R. HUNTER

Confirmation No.: 2227

Application No: 10/683,928

Examiner:

Filing Date: October 10, 2003

Group Art Unit: 2857

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR READING AND CONTROLLING UTILITY

CONSUMPTION

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner For Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56(a) and 1.97(b), Applicant hereby cites the following document(s) listed on the attached Form(s) PTO/SB/08 along with any required copies of listed document(s). In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(h) the filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited in this statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1610.

> Respectfully submitted, Law Office of Derek J. Westberg

Reg. No. 40,872

Attorney for Assignee

PTO/SB/21 (02-04) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE aperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number Application Number 10/683,928 PADEMA Filing Date TRANSMITTAL October 10, 2003 **FORM** First Named Inventor Robert R. HUNTER Art Unit 2857 (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) Examiner Name Attorney Docket Number TREND-00102 Total Number of Pages in This Submission **ENCLOSURES** (Check all that apply) After Allowance communication Fee Transmittal Form Drawing(s) to Group Appeal Communication to Board Licensing-related Papers Fee Attached of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to Group Petition (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Amendment/Reply Petition to Convert to a **Proprietary Information** After Final Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Status Letter Affidavits/declaration(s) Change of Correspondence Address Other Enclosure(s) (please Terminal Disclaimer Extension of Time Request Identify below): Request for Refund **Express Abandonment Request** Return Postcard CD, Number of CD(s) Information Disclosure Statement Remarks Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm Derek J. WESTBERG (Reg. No. 40,872) Individual name Signature Date 4007 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below. Typed or printed name Daniel RATOFF Date Signature

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. He information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

Sheet

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known				
Application Number	10/683,928			
Filing Date	October 10, 2003			
First Named Inventor	Robert R. HUNTER			
Art Unit	2857			
Examiner Name				
Attorney Docket Number	TREND-00102			

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (f known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		^{US-} 6,636,893-B1	10-21-2003	Fong	
		^{US-} 6,216,956-B1	04-17-2001	Ehlers et al.	
***************************************		^{US-} 5,924,486-A	07-20-1999	Ehlers et al.	Annual Control of the
		^{US-} 6,178,362-B1	01-23-2001	Woolard et al.	
		^{US-} 6,098,893-A	08-08-2000	Berglund et al.	
		^{US-} 6,577,962-B1	06-10-2003	Afshari	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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